

PARENT RATINGS OF BEHAVIORAL EFFECTS OF BIOMEDICAL INTERVENTIONS

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The parents of autistic children represent a vast and important reservoir of information on the benefits—and adverse effects—of the large variety of drugs and other interventions that have been tried with their children. Since 1967 the Autism Research Institute has been collecting parent ratings of the usefulness of the many interventions tried on their autistic children.

The following data have been collected from the more than 23,100 parents who have completed our questionnaires designed to collect such information. For the purposes of the present table, the parents' responses on a six-point scale have been combined into three categories: "made worse" (ratings 1 and 2), "no effect" (ratings 3 and 4), and "made better" (ratings 5 and 6). The "Better:Worse" column gives the number of children who "Got Better" for each one who "Got Worse."

DRUGS	Parent Ratings					DRUGS	Parent Ratings					DRUGS	Parent Ratings				
	Got Worse ^A	No Effect	Got Better	Better: Worse	No. of Cases ^B		Got Worse ^A	No Effect	Got Better	Better: Worse	No. of Cases ^B		Got Worse ^A	No Effect	Got Better	Better: Worse	No. of Cases ^B
Aderall	39%	26%	35%	0.9:1	411	Desipramine	36%	28%	36%	1.0:1	64	Phenobarb. ^D					
Amphetamine	47%	28%	25%	0.5:1	1198	<u>Dilantin</u> ^D						Behavior	47%	37%	16%	0.3:1	1069
Anafranil	32%	37%	31%	1.0:1	372	Behavior	28%	49%	24%	0.9:1	1063	Seizures	17%	43%	40%	2.4:1	472
Antibiotics	31%	58%	12%	0.4:1	1715	Seizures	14%	36%	50%	3.6:1	390	Prolixin	33%	37%	30%	0.9:1	89
<u>Antifungals</u> ^C						Felbatol	24%	49%	27%	1.1:1	41	Prozac	31%	33%	36%	1.2:1	1073
Diffucan	6%	44%	50%	7.9:1	239	Fenfluramine	21%	51%	28%	1.4:1	456	Risperidal	16%	30%	53%	3.2:1	528
Nystatin	5%	47%	47%	9.3:1	847	Halcion	37%	35%	29%	0.8:1	49	Ritalin	44%	26%	29%	0.7:1	3743
Atarax	26%	52%	22%	0.9:1	465	Haldol	38%	27%	34%	0.9:1	1142	<u>Secretin</u>					
Benadryl	24%	51%	25%	1.1:1	2637	IVIG	11%	46%	43%	4.0:1	37	Intravenous	8%	43%	48%	5.9:1	269
Beta Blocker	18%	49%	33%	1.8:1	249	<u>Klonopin</u> ^D						Transderm.	11%	50%	39%	3.6:1	103
Buspar	26%	45%	30%	1.1:1	311	Behavior	29%	36%	35%	1.2:1	180	Stelazine	28%	44%	27%	1.0:1	418
Chloral						Seizures	33%	56%	11%	0.3:1	36	<u>Tegretol</u> ^D					
Hydrate	42%	37%	22%	0.5:1	400	Lithium	26%	43%	31%	1.2:1	400	Behavior	24%	45%	31%	1.3:1	1404
Clonidine	21%	32%	47%	2.2:1	1218	Luvox	30%	36%	34%	1.2:1	145	Seizures	12%	33%	55%	4.6:1	748
Clozapine	42%	42%	16%	0.4:1	91	Mellaril	28%	38%	33%	1.2:1	2048	Thorazine	36%	40%	24%	0.7:1	908
Cogentin	19%	54%	28%	1.5:1	155	<u>Mysoline</u> ^D						Tofranil	30%	37%	33%	1.1:1	709
Cylert	45%	34%	20%	0.4:1	596	Behavior	44%	41%	15%	0.3:1	134	Valium	35%	41%	24%	0.7:1	808
Deanol	15%	55%	30%	2.0:1	198	Seizures	20%	57%	23%	1.2:1	61	<u>Zarontin</u> ^D					
<u>Depakene</u> ^D						Naltrexone	21%	45%	34%	1.6:1	211	Behavior	35%	44%	22%	0.6:1	133
Behavior	25%	44%	31%	1.3:1	934	Paxil	28%	30%	42%	1.5:1	245	Seizures	20%	51%	29%	1.4:1	90
Seizures	12%	31%	57%	4.8:1	617	Phenergan	30%	45%	25%	0.8:1	256	Zolof	33%	33%	33%	1.0:1	264

BIOMEDICAL/ NON-DRUG/ SUPPLEMENTS	Parent Ratings					BIOMEDICAL/ NON-DRUG/ SUPPLEMENTS	Parent Ratings				
	Got Worse ^A	No Effect	Got Better	Better: Worse	No. of Cases ^B		Got Worse ^A	No Effect	Got Better	Better: Worse	No. of Cases ^B
Vitamin A	2%	59%	39%	22:1	462	Vitamin B3	4%	55%	41%	9.2:1	566
Calcium ^E	2%	62%	35%	15:1	1175	Vit. B6 alone	8%	63%	30%	3.9:1	620
Cod Liver Oil	3%	51%	46%	16:1	603	Vit. B6/Mag.	4%	49%	47%	10:1	5495
Colostrum	5%	58%	36%	6.9:1	248	Vitamin C	2%	58%	39%	16:1	1503
Detox. (Chelation) ^C	2%	25%	73%	34:1	187	Zinc	3%	53%	45%	17:1	1020
Digestive Enzymes	4%	44%	52%	14:1	498	<u>SPECIAL DIETS</u>					
DMG	7%	51%	42%	5.8:1	4918	Candida Diet	3%	45%	52%	17:1	680
Fatty Acids	3%	46%	50%	15:1	467	Feingold Diet	2%	47%	51%	21:1	690
5HTP	8%	57%	35%	4.1:1	95	Gluten-/Casein-Free Diet	4%	33%	63%	17:1	1109
Folic Acid	4%	55%	41%	11:1	1274	Removed					
Food Allergy Trtmt	4%	37%	59%	15:1	413	Chocolate	2%	49%	49%	29:1	1631
Magnesium	6%	65%	29%	4.6:1	301	Removed Eggs	2%	59%	39%	17:1	1002
Melatonin	9%	33%	58%	6.3:1	427	Removed Milk					
Pepcid	10%	62%	28%	2.9:1	81	Products/Dairy	2%	50%	49%	30:1	5369
SAMe	19%	60%	21%	1.1:1	42	Removed Sugar	2%	51%	47%	23:1	3560
St. Johns Wort	16%	62%	22%	1.4:1	68	Removed Wheat	2%	51%	47%	26:1	2983
TMG	13%	43%	44%	3.3:1	289	Rotation Diet	3%	51%	47%	18:1	731
Transfer Factor	14%	56%	31%	2.2:1	59						

- A. "Worse" refers only to worse behavior. Drugs, but not nutrients, typically also cause physical problems if used long-term.
 B. No. of cases is cumulative over several decades, so does not reflect current usage levels (e.g., Haldol is now seldom used).
 C. Antifungal drugs and chelation are used selectively, where evidence indicates they are needed.
 D. Seizure drugs: top line behavior effects, bottom line effects on seizures.
 E. Calcium effects are not due to dairy-free diet; statistics are similar for milk drinkers and non-milk drinkers.